

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1394 without my signature.

This bill would, with few exceptions, eliminate the mandatory requirement that California physicians report to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) every patient whom they diagnose with a condition characterized by lapses of consciousness.

Eliminating mandatory physician reporting would endanger the motoring public. The patient who suffers from a seizure disorder or other severe impairment and continues to operate an automobile is a hazard to himself or herself, as well as to those with whom he or she shares the road.

In vetoing nearly identical legislation in 2005, I noted that it is too great a risk to other motorists to simply eliminate reporting requirements. One of DMV's primary mandates is to ensure that all drivers are competent to safely operate a motor vehicle. The DMV needs physician reports in order to fulfill that mandate.

For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger